

Arlington Historical Commission
Minutes for the Meeting of
Tuesday, 7 April 2015
Whittemore-Robbins House, 7:45 p.m.

1. Call to Order: Chairman, presiding, JoAnn Robinson and Commissioners Patrick Guthrie, and Eric Stange and Pamela Meister at 7:48pm.
2. Review of minutes: Reviewed the minutes from March 3, 2015. Patrick Guthrie moved to accept the minutes as revised. JoAnn Robinson 2nded the motion. Minutes accepted.
3. Communications Received:
 - a. Message from Andrew McKee from 30 Academy Street requesting replacement of Historical House Marker for sign lost. It is the Edward Hornblower House of 1875.
 - b. Message from Barbara Boudreau requesting permission to demolish a 1930 9x18 framed shed at 67 Dudley Street. It is damaged and is now leaning as a result of the winter weather. If the house is on the Inventory, the outbuildings require a hearing. A hearing is scheduled for 8:00pm on May 5, 2015.
 - c. Message from Chris Cormier regarding sign off request for 198 Overlook Road. This property is not on the Inventory. A message regarding this was sent to the Building Department.
 - d. Message from Debra regarding request for Historical House Marker for 179 Westminster Avenue. She believes this is the Nichols House. Contact information is 781-777-2434 or 781-859-7275.
 - e. Message from Jeff Miller regarding the Regent Theatre. Masonry falling down and has put up scaffolding with netting. Needs to discuss repair plans as soon as possible.
 - f. Message from Hannah Wiseman
 - g. Message from John Johansson regarding garage demolition at 82 Kensington Park. A sign off was sent to the Building Department. This property is not on the Inventory.
 - h. Message from Thomas Schaejbe regarding request for the demolition of 51 Epping Street. Sign off sent to the Building Department. This property is not on the Inventory.
 - i. Message from Judy Taddio requesting information about her 100 year old house. 781-718-6395.
 - j. Message from Jeff Miller from Capitol Realty Group about emergency repairs needed at the Regent Theatre.
 - k. Message from Seaver Construction 31-31A Mott Street. Looking for sign off. A message was sent to the Building Department. This property is not on the Inventory.
 - l. Historical Marker request for 7 Tanager Street. 617-794-2537-Andy.
 - m. Kevin Strick regarding deck replacement and railing work needed at 69 & 71 Bartlett Street. It does not meet the 25% , we have no jurisdiction.

- n. Scott Hankinson wants to remove vinyl siding at 163 Park Avenue. JoAnn requested a conversation.
 - o. Message from Lorraine Stevens- 91 Beacon Street- 781-643-6217. Wants to find out about the history of her house. There is information on the website on how to research your house.
4. Reports of other Town Boards and Historical Organizations:
- a. Arlington Preservation Fund (Guthrie, Schaefer)- Nothing to report.
 - b. Arlington Historical Society (Meister)- The next lecture at the Robbins Library on April 28 will talk about the Robbins sister's charitable giving at 7pm.
 - c. Old Schwamb Mill- Nothing to report.
 - d. Arlington Historic Districts Commission- Nothing to report.
 - e. Tourism and Economic Development (Robinson)- Nothing to report.
5. Historical Commission FY 2013 Budget –
6. Projects Proceeding under Hearings and Approvals:
- a. 13 Winter Street 8/12 Guthrie- Nothing to report.
 - b. Whittemore Robbins House Cottage 6/13 Robinson - Deed restrictions reviewed and there is no longer a deed restriction (expired in 1987). It means that Mass Historical Commission no longer has a voice in the building. The Commission wants to make a statement regarding the need for repairs to the Carriage House and the Robbins Cottage.
 - c. 41 Kensington Road 9/13 Guthrie-
 - d. 246 Park Ave 12/13 Guthrie- Nothing to report.
 - e. 64 Park Street 5/14 Robinson- Nothing to report.
 - f. 129 Lake Street 12/13 Schaefer- No report.
 - g. 1173 Massachusetts Avenue 11/14 Guthrie- Nothing to report.
 - h. 18 Robin Hood Road 3/15 Robinson- Nothing to report.
7. Continuing Projects
- a. Whittemore Robbins House (and outbuildings): Robinson –
 - b. Arlington Civic Block Garden: Robinson – A Friend's of the Garden group has started to meet regarding upkeep of the gardens.
 - c. Education/Outreach: Robinson – Nothing to report.
 - d. Historic House Markers: JoAnn will contact Richard Duffy about doing research on houses that are requesting house markers.
 - e. Town Hall: Duffy – Nothing to report.

f. Web Site: Stange – Nothing to report.

8. Discussion and Hearing:

7:45pm

Emergency Consultation: Jeff Miller from Capitol Realty Group that manages the Regent Theatre and

Evan Hankin, Professional Engineer.

Problem: The piers are leaking and this has led to the dentil work to be damaged and caused chunks of the dentil work to fall from the building. The plan is to replace the roof with rubber membrane and to be one continuous membrane to prevent leaks where the parapets are. The piers at this time are damaged and can replace these with a fiberglass replica. Have it lifted off the roof and let water drain underneath.

Is it possible to not replace all nine piers? Need to look at historic photos to determine if the number of piers matter. The Commission would like the number to be the same.

We want to help you to successfully repair the roof.

Dentil work can be repaired or replicated with fiberglass.

Preserve the piers so that they can be replicated.

First step is to replace the roof and then 2nd step is to replace the piers.

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8:12pm

Formal Hearing for 13 Chestnut Street.

Bill Copithorne Project Manager,

Walter Abbott-Owner

Garage on property is in poor condition.

Requesting that it be demolished.

Patrick Guthrie made a sight visit. The building consists of two phases of construction. It has rafters and horizontal eaves. Roof sheathing is perpendicular. Hard to date based on joinery. The attic framing tells the most interesting part of the building.

In his opinion, there is no integrity to the building. It does not need to be preferentially preserved.

Pam moved that the building not be preferentially preserved. Eric Stange 2nded the motion. All voted in favor.

Closed at 8:21pm

Hearing for 8:30pm for 38 Kensington Park. No show.

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9. Old Business- JoAnn presented design for the antenna on the Central Fire Station. The Commission approves under protest. The antenna is not attractive.
10. New Business- Design Standards for Arlington's Business Districts on Saturday, April 11, 2015. It is a step in the right direction. Would any members like to volunteer to attend. Eric Stange will do the morning

The Arlington Historical Commission meeting adjourned at 9:03pm

The next Arlington Historical Commission meeting will be May 5, 2015.

For the Arlington Historical Commission, Victoria Rose, Recording Secretary.